

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1056

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP EAGR LY

SUBJECT: VISIT LIBYAN AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL TO U.S.

REF: STATE 47235

1. REFTTEL DISCUSSED WITH MINISTER GAUD MARCH 12. IT WAS CLARIFIED THAT HE WISHED TO HAVE CONSULTANTS ONLY FOR PROPOSED TAZERBO PROJECT.

2. FOR COMPLETED KUFRA PROJECT, HE HOPED COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES WOULD VISIT TRIPOLI AND KUFRA AT COMPANY EXPENSE TO REVIEW PROJECT'S NEEDS AND MAKE OFFER TO SELL PUMPS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT. AS PURE GUESS, THIS MIGHT BE \$2 MILLION ORDER. INTERESTED COMPANIES COULD CONTACT ENGINEERING FIRM TIPTON & KALMBACH, INC. DENVER, COLORADO, FOR ENGINEERING DETAILS. HOWEVER, BEST KNOWLEDGE OF REQUIREMENTS COULD BE BY SALES REPRESENTATIVES VISIT KUFRA.

3. CONSULTANTS ARE NEEDED FOR TAZERBO PROJECT. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, MINISTER SUGGESTED REPS OF RECOMMENDED CONSULTING FIRMS VISIT LIBYA WITH LARG PAYING THEIR TRAVEL AND LIVING EXPENSES. AFTER STUDYING OBJECTIVES AND TALKING WITH AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS, CONSULTANTS COULD NEGOTIATE FEES AND DETERMINE LENGTH OF TIME NECESSARY FOR PRELIMINARY STUDIES. (PLANNED TAZERBO PROJECT WILL COVER 150,000 HECTARES COMPARED TO 10,000-HECTARE KUFRA PROJECT.) IN MINISTER'S VIEW, LENGTH OF TIME NECESSARY FOR COMPLETION

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PRELIMINARY STUDIES WOULD DEPEND ON NUMBER CONSULTANTS SENT

HERE AND THEIR EFFICIENCY.

4. WHEN GAUD WAS INFORMED ABOUT SUPERIOR FARMING'S INTEREST, HE DECIDED TO INVITE ROBERT SCHRAMM TO VISIT LIBYA IMMEDIATELY AT LARG EXPENSE. REQUEST DEPT ALERT SCHRAMM TO FORTHCOMING INVITATION FROM LIBYAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

5. GAUD STILL HOPES U.S. COMPANIES INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING KUFRA EQUIPMENT AND TAZERBO CONSULTANCY SERVICE CAN SEND REPS HERE BEFORE HIS OWN VISIT TO U.S. HE ASSURED US HE WOULD INFORM EMBASSY IN ADVANCE OF HIS PLANS AND REQUESTS FOR VISIT.
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